

CLAIMS

1. A method of transmitting metric data from a medical data collecting device to a server computer, the method comprising:
 - determining a cable type of a medical data collecting device;
 - transmitting a cable type value corresponding to the cable type to a server computer;
 - receiving device configuration instructions from the server computer;
 - configuring one or more components to enable communication with the medical data collecting device; and
 - receiving metric data from the medical data collecting device for transmission to the server computer.
2. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein receiving device configuration instructions from the server computer further comprises:
 - on the server computer, using the cable type value to retrieve the device configuration instructions from a database such that intelligence regarding the medical data collecting device resides on the server computer.
3. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:
 - determining whether a host input/output connection is enabled and a device input/output is enabled.
4. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:
 - a multiplexer reading the cable of the medical data collecting device; and
 - a modem transmitting the cable type value to the server computer wherein a pre-determined dial-up number is used to connect to the server computer.
5. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising transmitting an acknowledgment to the server computer.

6. A method of sending metric data from a self-monitoring diagnostic meter to a data repository using an intermediate device, the method comprising:

enabling a first connection between an intermediate device and a self-monitoring diagnostic meter and enabling a second connection between the intermediate device and a host input/output;

determining a specific type of self-monitoring diagnostic meter by examining a cable type value at the data repository; and

configuring the intermediate device using intelligence data sent from the data repository thereby enabling the intermediate device to receive data from the self-monitoring diagnostic meter through the first connection and transmitting the data through a second connection.

7. A method as recited in claim 6 further comprising reconfiguring the intermediate device with new intelligence data when a different self-monitoring diagnostic meter is connected to the intermediate device.

8. A method as recited in claim 6 further comprising directly connecting the intermediate device to a telephone connection for transmitting metric data to the data repository.

9. A method as recited in claim 6 further comprising directly connecting the intermediate device to one of a plurality of self-monitoring diagnostic meters.

10. A method as recited in claim 6 further comprising installing a second intelligence data in the central repository to accommodate a new, previously unknown, self-monitoring diagnostic meter